DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, Through all that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1848. NO. I.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PUBLISHER.

CONGRATULATORY.

We recently offered a valedictory, in another journal, and we are now happy in greeting the agricultural community, under circumstances so auspicious, in a new and more acceptable manner, in which the labors of ourself and our many kind friends, who aid us in the cause of improvement, will be in a compact and durable form, circulating on their own intrinsic merit, unencumbered and unaided by extraneous matter.

The Publisher will spare no expense in furnishing a work in good taste and style, and the Editor and Correspondents will endeavor to make it worthy a place among the most respectable journals of other classes, though it will be the *exponent* of a profession that is still in its infancy, both in art and science, and has not, until recently, assumed an importance even in the minds of the millions that pursue it, much less in the opinion of a still larger number who must live or starve, as this art flourishes or fades.

Within a short period, great improvements have been made in agriculture; yet we are just beginning to ascend the mount of knowledge, —

"Hills peep o'er hills, and Alps on Alps arise,"—

and a wide field opens before us, amply sufficient for the range of greatest acumen and profoundest philosophy. The most skilful in practice and the most thorough in science will find more subjects for investigation and experiment, than they can possibly explore even in a long life.

Every branch, throughout the whole routine of cultivation and economy, is suceptible of improvement, from our operations against the minutest insect that spoils the crops of the farmer, to the management of the noblest animal that aids in his labors; from the humblest plant that flourishes in the meadow, to the majestic monarch that waves in the forest. Every mode of culture and management must be tried by the hand of renovation; all the various productions of the earth must undergo a most rigid scrutiny and the severe ordeal of exact comparison; implements and machines, the astonishing product of the greatest skill, science, and practice, must be improved, or the spirit of the age will write *Tekel* upon them.

We depend greatly on valuable communications, and the contributions of important matter, to give variety, interest, and value to the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, and we invite the cordial aid of the friends of this great cause, which is also the cause of patriotism and philanthropy.

On that magnanimous spirit, so conspicuous among farmers, of diffusing widely their discoveries and improvements for the general welfare, we confidently rely for assistance, as it is a source from which we may draw, and yet the fountain overflow and expand more and more, in consequence of the liberal drafts upon it. Such is the human mind, that the generous and benevolent acquire knowledge from its diffusion, and the liberal soul expands by its own munificence, and lives in the prosperity which it creates around it.

We are but a co-laborer with thousands of others in the vast field of improvement; and let us all strive to excel, and disseminate, broadcast, over the land, excellence in the art of culture, nor rest satisfied with what we have done until the wilderness shall blossom as a rose, and there is not a waste or barren spot in our favored country, nor a single cultivator ignorant of his profession. If there be an individual too *short-sighted* to read, or too *wise* to learn, the generous and intelligent should aid in giving him light; and we will most cheerfully and liberally contribute to so laudable a purpose.

MANAGEMENT OF WOOD LANDS.

The best way of managing wood lands, as to the mode of cutting, is to take all the wood clean off at once. Then new trees will start up under good management, and all have an equal chance, and

make a handsome, straight growth. The mode that has been practised by many, is to cut off the large and decaying trees, allowing the younger and more vigorous to remain. By this course, a few trees will spread their branches wide, and discourage any new growth. We have seen some of the finest wood lots mismanaged in this way; and as the largest and oldest trees were removed, the more thrifty increased and occupied the whole land, and after a while the whole lot contained but a light growth of scattering trees, with no prospect of any thing new, and the land became, in a measure, unproductive.

On the contrary, we have cut off all, and a vigorous growth succeeded, which became valuable for both timber and fuel, and for making sugar, where the rock maple prevailed, in the course of fifteen or twenty years.

For the New England Farmer.

SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Editor: The progress of knowledge in those sciences connected with the art of cultivation, has been wonderful during the last half century. Geology, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology, which barely had a name as sciences in our highest literary institutions, fifty years ago, much less any place as established branches of study, now have a place in the appointed course of study in the common school. The theories erected on our supposed philosophic knowledge are not always, perhaps not often, successfully applied in practice. One reason why it is so may be found in the imperfection of our knowledge; another, in the widely different results in the artificial laboratory, and the operations of the same principles in the field.

The analysis of a plant seems to show the chemist what food should be provided to nourish and mature that plant; but in the application he seldom realizes all the influence expected, and not unfrequently is entirely disappointed. In the life and growth of plants there is mystery which human knowledge cannot solve. Approaches to the truth are the highest pretensions of the deepest researchers into the laws of nature. Chemists of the highest attainments have no perfect confidence in the successful application of all their recommendations in agricultural pursuits; they advise farmers to proceed with caution, and never practise to great extent on any theory till facts, in carefully conducted experiments, shall have proved its correctness.

The exact delineation of experiments and the faithful record of the results are of great utility to farmers, and much of the space in an agricultural paper should be filled with details of them. Even those experiments, which, at first view, seem of little or no value, may assist some man in the discovery of an error, or fix his attention on some simple, though important fact, which had before escaped his notice. In the records of practical results, the farmer discovers motives to excellence in his work which would, in a great measure, be hidden from him in the perusal of a literary essay. What wonderful influences have been produced, what an impulse has been given to the exertions of many farmers, in the simple narration of the practices of Klyogg, who began his career in careful observation, and ended it in the possession of true philosophy!

In these views it seems very desirable that our agricultural papers should be in a form easy of preservation and reperusal. We want to compare present views and practices with those of by-gone years, and learn whether actual advancement is proportionate to the changes we witness. It is sometimes asserted, in somewhat boastful manner, that a complete revolution has been effected in agriculture, that labors are now governed by principles and prosecuted with instruments unthought of in former ages. It is not exactly so. In looking back as far as the days of Jethro Tull, we find, in his quaint language, intimations of nearly all the philosophical principles on which farmers now act; and in his cuts, the drafts of various implements, in form, were very similar to those now in use. Great improvements on the theories and practices of other ages have been made, and beyond this we have no ground of boasting. The continued progress of improvements will be most effectually promoted in critical comparisons of our theories and practices with those both of recent and more ancient experimenters.

MORRILL ALLEN.

Pembroke, *Nov.* 21, 1848.

Editorial Remarks.

The above communication, from a veteran and successful farmer, on the advantages of science applied to agriculture, is worthy the particular attention of those farmers who think that science is of but little importance to them. We are aware that some sciences that have an important bearing on agriculture, are, in this respect, very imperfectly understood, and that men of science differ on some points of great interest to the cultivator; yet this is a day of improvement, and we are constantly receiving more light from experiments conducted in a scientific manner.

One great consideration should be always in view; that is, all the operations of nature are one vast series of scientific principles, and all that can be done by men of practice and science does not change them one iota. The great object should be to learn what they are, that we may aid Nature in her operations, and thus render our labors lighter and more pleasant and productive.

For the New England Farmer.

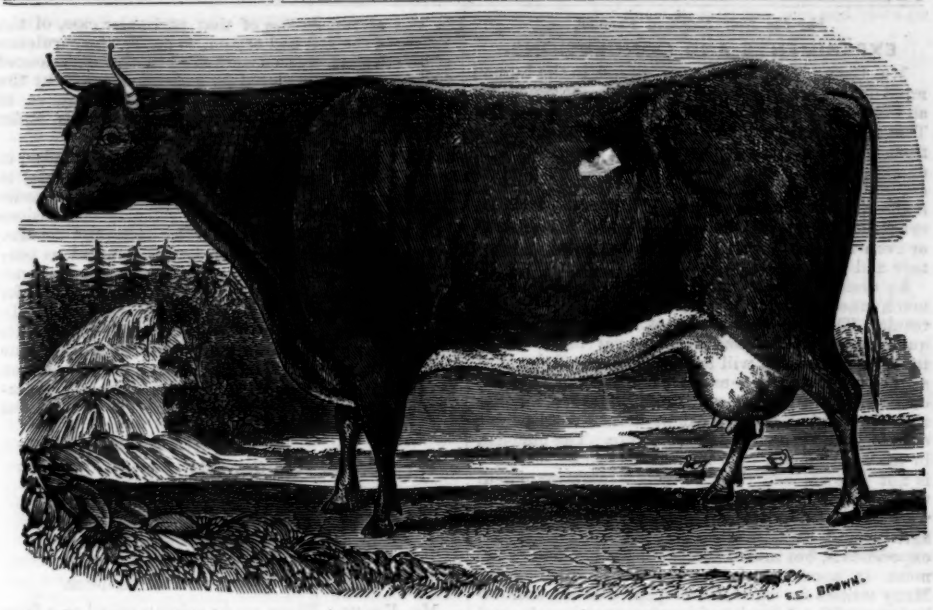
DITCHING.

Mr. Editor: I have been trying the effects of ditching on my farm in Carver. I dug nearly two miles this fall; and meadows that were always full of water have been made perfectly dry. In all cases, where practicable, I have dug six to ten inches in the sand or clay, so as to perfectly drain the muddy part. My ditches have usually been four feet wide and three feet deep. In some places I could not reach the sand, but in most cases I was able to reach it, as I usually ditched near the shore, so as to cut off the springs, and then cut narrow ditches from one side to the other. If the narrow ditches did nothing more, they drained off the sour cold water, which will make the fodder sweet. Now it remains to see what kind of grass will take the place of the round grass and other useless kinds. After one year, you will hear from me again. The farmers say I have ruined the meadow. The mud I have carted to the barn-yard and hog-pen, intended for dry, sandy soil, which I think is worth more than manure without the mixture, especially on sandy land.

Yours, S. A. SHURTLEFF.

Brookline, *Oct.*, 1848.

Safe Seal. — A letter closed with the white of an egg cannot be opened by the steam of boiling water, like a common wafer, as the heat only adds to its firmness.



KAATSKILL, A NATIVE COW.

This is the portrait of a native cow, the property of R. Donaldson, Esq., Blithwood, Dutchess Co., N. Y., which was engraved for the Albany Cultivator. She gave thirty-eight quarts of milk per day, in June. Age six years; color brindle; weight 1170 pounds. We have selected it as a good representation of our best native cows, and if not a perfect model of beauty, proportion, and symmetry, it is true to our purpose. As our native cattle are made up of various races, and numerous mixtures of these different breeds, no animal can be presented as a type of the whole; yet the above is the general form of our best native milkers.

Probably no race of cattle can be found which excels our best natives for milk; yet we experience a serious disadvantage in not being able, generally, to produce this valuable quality in the offspring. The old adage, that "a good cow may have a bad calf," is often verified.

This is easily accounted for. The qualities of our finest native cows are often merely incidental, not a fixed property; therefore they will not always descend to the offspring. To remedy this evil, the very best stock should be selected, and then, by a continued course of judicious management, a fine race of animals would be produced, having properties of their progenitors, as the breed would become fixed, or what is called blood stock.

To the human race the cow is the most valuable of all animals. She affords the best of food to all, from infancy to old age. Milk contains all the elements of nutrition for every part of the growing animal or being. Alone it is valuable food, and is excellent with every species of bread, and almost every kind of fruit, and various other productions; and the products of the cow may form a most valuable ingredient in almost every dish, and in many they are absolutely necessary to their excellence; and they afford the advantage of condensation and preservation, and become a convenient article of commerce.

Besides this excellent property in the cow, she is also useful for many other purposes, as well as other animals. Her products form a preparation for our feet, a light to dissipate the darkness of night, an oil for various purposes; her horns form many ornamental and useful articles, her flesh the richest viands; and with good discipline and gentle treatment, she may be made a valuable and economical instrument in labor; and why not take exercise as well as other prolific animals, and as well as wild animals, that, in the same productive state, range forest and mountain, with severe exercise, in search of food, for themselves and offspring.

The cow being so important to our sustenance and comfort, she should be treated with the greatest kindness, and fed and managed with best care. Give her a warm, dry shelter, a neat and well-ventilated house, curry often, give her a plenty of drink, and good food, at regular periods, and she will richly pay for all extra expense and care.

THE POTATO ROT. — All parts of our State seem to be again afflicted with this terrible scourge. Every where it has made its appearance with more or less virulence. Our correspondent in Essex Co. reports the crop there to be in a great measure lost. In this neighborhood its ravages have not been so severe, but nearly every field is more or less injured. So much heavy rain as we have had during August and September has undoubtedly been one cause of its prevalence. — *Vermont Agriculturist.*

For the New England Farmer.

EXPERIMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS.

Mr. Cole: There is great proneness in the human mind to form theories from single facts — to generalize and lay down principles from isolated observations. This aptitude to form hasty and erroneous opinions, from few facts and experiments, is remarkable on agricultural subjects. Hence theories and dogmas are promulgated one year as fixed truths, that are exploded the next. On no subject is it more difficult to come to any certain conclusion from an experiment, or even half a dozen experiments, than in agriculture and kindred arts.

So many elements enter into the operation, that much uncertainty must rest on what produces the result. The infinite variety of soils, the different qualities of manures, and the ever-varying weather, in different seasons, will baffle the efforts of the most acute experimenters; and nothing but long experience, close observation, and skilful management, varied for a series of years, can settle, with reasonable certainty, any principle in agriculture. The chemist, in his experiments, uses no articles whose strength is not known, and then he weighs each ingredient with scrupulous exactness, and makes his combination with the nice and prescribed rules of science. The agriculturist cannot, with like precision, make his experiments, but must exercise discretion and judgment in approximation to probable correctness. Many writers for agricultural papers do not seem to be aware of the difficulty of farming experiments, and of the uncertainty of many of their conclusions. From this arises the want of confidence, in the public mind, in paper speculations on the subject. Did writers for the periodical press content themselves with stating facts, and all attending circumstances likely to affect results in their experiments and operations, they would render much more service to the public, and command more attention and confidence, than in hastily spinning theories, or announcing some supposed discovery of mighty import, from a partial and imperfect experiment, that in fact proves worthless.

For instance, the numerous speculations, principles, and dogmas in regard to the potato, often laid down with the air of infallibility, are known to every experienced farmer to be nearly all merely imaginary. So of the disease that has of late so nearly destroyed that useful root, its cause, remedy, and prevention, almost daily is announced some great discovery, drawn from a single fact or experiment, that proves fallacious. One man will notice a shower just before his potatoes are struck with the rot, and he will lay it down as the certain cause, as though that shower extended over Europe and America. Another discovers some fly or insect about his potato tops, just before he discovers they are diseased, and then, with flourish of trumpets, he announces the great discovery of the cause.

Some assert dogmatically that the cultivated potato has lived out its life, and must be renewed; others, that the disease is undoubtedly the effect of high cultivation; and so on to the end of the chapter, if the chapter is ever to have an end. Such conclusions, jumped at from slight observations, were finely illustrated by a neighbor, who said his potatoes in his long rows were but slightly diseased, while those in the short ones were nearly all rotten. He did not, however, lay down the dogma, that long rows were a certain remedy, for he was a man of sense, and sought for some explanation from other circumstances, and recollected that in planting, he furrowed his ground with his oxen, where he could do it conveniently, forming long rows, and planted his potatoes there deeper than in his short rows, where the hoe was used instead of the plough.

His conjecture as to the cause was probably correct in the circumstances of that particular case, of the nature of the soil and season, so far as the virulence of the disease was concerned; but the experienced farmer, who has suffered for a series of years by the disease, knows that, under some circumstances of season and soil, the deep-covered potatoes suffer least, and under others, the most.

These considerations demonstrate the necessity, in making experiments, of great care and accuracy in the operation, and of continuing them for a series of years before any certain or valuable conclusions can be drawn from them. The facts and results, with so many of the circumstances detailed as possible, should be yearly published, as facts for the benefit of other experimenters, and as useful hints for the practical farmer, as well as the experimenter. In communicating such facts to the public, the nature of the soil should be accurately described, the time of the various operations, and character of the season as to temperature, and moistness, or dryness, and particularly for what articles of production the seasons are most favorable and otherwise.

RUFUS M'INTIRE.

Parsonfield, Me., *Oct.* 1848.

For the New England Farmer.

POULTRY

A PROFITABLE PART OF FARM PRODUCE.

Mr. Editor: There are no animals raised on a farm that are more neglected by farmers than poultry. They, in fact, receive but very little attention, and are rather left to take care of themselves, than fed at regular seasons, and in other respects properly provided for. Why this is so, it is difficult to say, unless it be that the profits of poultry are not supposed to pay for the expense of feeding them. But that this is a mistaken notion, the experience of those who have bestowed care and attention in keeping poultry, will warrant any one in asserting.

The objects of the farmer in keeping poultry are twofold: 1st. The raising and fattening of them for market; 2d. Obtaining from them eggs for the same purpose. These two articles, fowls and eggs, are generally quick of sale, and command good prices. If any farmer believes otherwise, let him enter any large market stall, or grocery store, where eggs are sold, and witness the piles that from day to day are disposed of and replaced by others; or, what is far better, ascertain the amount of sales which the egg account shows at the end of the year. Let him ascertain, too, the amount of eggs consumed at a single hotel in the city, or at any large confectionary or bakery. Let him count up the probable number of dozens consumed in a large city in a single day; and he will almost begin to think that the chief food of its inhabitants is eggs — eggs — and nothing but eggs.

So, too, of poultry. Take the following item, which appears in a recent English journal, as in point on the consumption of this article abroad. "Mr. Bailey, poulterer, of London, states that one London salesman sells annually £100,000 worth of poultry; that he himself paid £81,000 last year for poultry, and that £15,000 are paid yearly at Aylesbury for young ducklings." That the sales of poultry in the Boston market would present a corresponding exhibit, there can be little doubt. Perhaps some poulterer there might be induced to make an estimate on the subject. In the absence of such an estimate, it may be stated, on good authority, that in the town of Lynn are two poulterers, who kill, in the warm season, on an average, one 500 and the other 300 chickens every week for the Nahant tables. They have men specially employed to collect poultry from a large circuit in that vicinity.

With such a demand, increasing every season, will it not pay well for our farmers to keep more fowls, to select the best variety, to feed them higher and more regularly, and in fact to make the rearing of poultry an object of equal importance with that of raising swine or fattening calves? There are many suggestions which might be offered on this question; but enough, perhaps, has been said to attract more attention to it than it has hitherto received from the farmers of Massachusetts.

ALLEN W. DODGE.

HAMILTON, *Nov.* 11, 1848.

For the New England Farmer.

WOOD AND TIMBER LANDS, PLANTING FOREST TREES, &c.

MR. EDITOR: The faithful injunction of "Axeman, spare that tree," is unheeded by the pioneer. Timber he fells, he burns; he scatters his fires, and glories in conflagrations which deaden the forests, as though forest trees were his natural enemies, and he was bent upon extermination. He rarely stays his hand until his own wants, or a good market, calls for lumber. But, alas! he exclaims, I had some once, and knew not its value.

His forty-acre woodlot, economized, would have produced abundant supplies for home use, and much for market. But he has cut the young, the thrifty, and the straight-grained, because it was more easily prepared for fuel. The aged, gnarled, and decaying stand or lie as scattering monuments of his folly. Kind Nature, man's best friend, attempts to repair these breaches in her sylvan shades, made by man's improvidence. By her various agencies, unaided by man, she scatters her forest seeds, and soon the pippins of the oak, the pine, the white ash, sugar-maple, and hackmatack, valuable varieties, make their appearance, and thrive in proportion to the congeniality of the soil. But hungry cattle and sheep are turned to the woodlot to browse before the grasses of spring are sufficiently grown, and the ruin is completed. Nature now, as if disgusted with man's folly and indolence, adopts the suggestion of Solomon, "A rod for the fool's back," and mosses, brakes, thistles, burdocks, brambles, and worthless shrubbery, are her chastisements.

Reader, have you wood and timber lands? Guard them from fires as you would protect the apple of your eye. If fires or the axeman's folly has injured your lots, as soon after it as the following November, select seeds from the best varieties of healthy trees, growing on soils similar to those you wish to plant, and aid nature in repairing the breaches. Thus you may cultivate the valuable, to the exclusion of the worthless. Keep out your cattle till the young forest is above their reach. Spare the thrifty, and cut the old and decaying; fell with care, to spare your saplings.

Plant your white ash on rich, moist soils; your oaks will thrive on land hilly, rocky, and unfit for tillage. Your pines will grow on almost every variety of soil not too boggy. Your hackmatack, more valuable than oak for knees, beams, and top timbers for vessels, combines strength with durability, and never corrodes the iron fastening, as does the oak from its acidity. This valuable timber* will only grow to maturity on soils too wet and miry to be profitable for the growth of other timber.

The alder, black ash, and cedar are its neighbors; the borders of bogs and muddy streams are its favorite locations. Millions of entirely unproductive acres, in New England, are admirably adapted to its growth.

Shall a commercial people longer shut their eyes to the importance of encouraging the protecting and growing such valuable timbers for ship-building, as the oak and hackmatack? And who is there that does not know the value of white ash and white pine for other purposes? Yet how few protect them, either from indolence or a fear that posterity only will be benefited. Yet numerous facts like the following may be found. Near the junction of the Kennebeck and Sebasticook Rivers lived, forty years since, a Mr. William Gatchell. He had occasion to build him a dwelling-house. *In his lot, timber could not be procured for the frame.* He was then poor, owning a piece of clay loam, destitute of wood, yet covered with sprouts. He cut down the worthless, and left the white oak and white pine. He is now *rich*, and his property is *timber, on that very land, worth several hundred dollars per acre.* Good judges estimate the increased value to be more than twelve per cent. Yet no man calls him a usurer. He tills a little productive farm, lives happy, appears yet in the prime of life, does not keep his prosperity a secret, but advises all to take care of their *sprouts*. Beyond this he has no key to unlock the chests of Mammon, save that he never goes to law, seldom swaps horses, or dabbles in politics; but always takes an agricultural paper, and pays for it. Reader, if your land has *sprouts*, go and do likewise.

JESSE SMART.

TROY, MAINE, *Nov.* 1848.

For the New England Farmer.

BEE-ROT.

MR. COLE: I have observed this disease in the hive for more than twenty years; but have hitherto been unable to learn the *cause*, or *remedy*. The bees perish, and rot while in their cells, in the chrysalis state, and the young in the hive are found to be a complete mass of corrupted matter, with only here and there some young, apparently healthy; which invariably results in the overthrow of the hive generally in the course of a few months, sometimes continuing along a year or two from the commencement of the disease.

My attention has been directed to this subject for many years, and as I had come to the conclusion that dead chrysales were produced by a chill among the young, in the breeding season, I constructed hives in such a manner that a little care would secure the brood combs from any sudden changes of weather; but as this remedy seemed to be insufficient, I constructed both the hive and bee-house in such a way that no frost would ever be found in the hive in the coldest weather, and the sudden changes of atmosphere during the breeding season could have no effect on the brood combs in the hive. I have urged this matter with much confidence before the public in some of my published communications; but still the rot continues unabated; but like the disease in potatoes, with increased magnitude. Bees that are kept secure from the changes and chills of weather, seem to be equally liable to this disease as those are that stand out and are more exposed.

The cause of this disease among the young in the hive appears to me to originate chiefly from an inefficiency in the pollen of the flowers or bee-bread, or the honey with which it is mixed, or some other substance that is mixed with pollen and honey, and

* A writer in the Cultivator thinks the hackmatack would thrive on upland. I am not surprised that he should think so. When young, it grows thriftily on tolerably dry soil; but before it is large enough for use, a dry rot seizes the heart, and the black ants eat it to a shell. Having cut thousands of tons within the last fifteen years, I am able to say, I have never found one tree of old growth, upon upland, that was sound. Thus, those who would plant for timber should be cautious and select swamps and moist land.

looks like milk with which the young are fed while in the larva state. *Here is the difficulty;* some of the bees hatch and become perfect and lively working bees, while others, from the same litter of eggs, burst off the cap of the cell where they were confined during their dormant state, and come forth feeble and emaciated, only "born to die," unable to perform any labor, even without stings, while others, some with life, but unable, through extreme weakness, to escape their cell, while a majority of them remain entombed in their little prisons without life, and all the brood combs soon become a complete burial-ground, with only here and there a spot where another of the inmates of the hive could be entombed, In this way the hive dwindles away, and the number of their companions so reduced that the bees are unable to guard themselves from their enemies, the robbers, or the moths, and are unable to raise animal heat in sufficient quantity to make the honey warm and nutritive, and they perish with cold and hunger, even where plenty of food is at hand.

I make these remarks with a view to call the attention of the friends of the apiary to this subject, and if possible save this most industrious and useful community of insects from a pestilence which is by far more threatening to their existence than their formidable enemies, the moths.

JOHN M. WEEKS.

West Farms, near Middlebury, Vt., *Nov.* 1, 1848.

P. S. Since the potato rot commenced, in 1844, I have lost yearly about one third part of my stock of bees, by this disease; and unless some remedy can be prescribed, the management of the apiary in many localities will be brought to a close.

J. M. W.

For the New England Farmer.

AGRICULTURE IN MAINE.

Mr. Cole: In giving you a few hints in reference to farming in this region, my remarks may be somewhat desultory and wandering, or a sort of a hash. When I say this region, I would premise that we are located on what is frequently termed the "height of land," situated about midway between the Penobscot and Kennebeck Rivers; where any one having a taste for rural scenery, and a soil in every respect adapted to successful husbandry, would find free scope for his mental and physical powers.

The past season, with us, has been one of unusual moisture; is so recorded by the weather clerks, and will be referred to in coming time as "the rainy season;" yet *the* bottles were sealed up for a time, at a most important period, which enabled the farmer to secure a most bountiful crop of hay. Corn and oats, too, are abundant, and the ways farmers "put in" for these, especially the latter, were neither few nor small. Our wheat crop may be regarded as a failure; though red bearded, sowed about the middle of June, has yielded a fair return for labor bestowed; the successful growing of wheat sowed at so late a time, is at variance with our former modes, and would seem to denote atmospheric changes.

Of the potato, it is hardly necessary for me to speak; the unseen destroyer has visited alike the cultivators of this root in every land; but I am strong in the faith, that he will again retire, when the potato will resume its wonted fairness. The failure of the two great staples, wheat and potatoes, has sadly diminished the profits of farming in Maine; for the time has been when the farmer could rely at all times upon bread made from the wheat of his raising, and meet his grocery bills with the proceeds of sales from his surplus potato crop; nevertheless, the country has continued steadily to advance in resources, and in all the means conducive to the substantial comforts of the people. The causes are obvious to the most casual observer; the country is dotted over, and apparently sowed broadcast, with a population unsurpassed for industry and intelligence. *We know no pastimes but those of productive labor.* We eat, work, and sleep, and then we eat, work, and sleep again.

Should a circus or a caravan be approaching, they are forthwith warned off by the fathers of the towns, in fear that the purses of the dear people would be found minus a quarter. In the improved condition of the country, may be noticed a corresponding improvement in all our domestic animals. Some half century since, when our forests first echoed with the pioneer's axe, when our cattle were raised on browse and sheltered in hovels, a pair of oxen six feet in girth were quite as much of a novelty as a yoke of seven feet are now.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY BUTMAN.

Dixmont, Maine, *Oct.* 28, 1848.

For the New England Farmer.

ON MANURE AND ITS APPLICATION.

Mr. Editor: The application of manure in a manner best calculated to renovate the soil, is a subject that can never be exhausted. Perhaps there are few subjects, moral, religious, or *political*, on which there is a greater diversity of opinion, or one in regard to which so few are fully satisfied that their method is perfect, and admits of no improvement.

It is, however, pretty generally conceded that our fathers were wrong in throwing their manure out of the barn window to be leached through the winter without covering; and in applying their manure to crops, a shovelful in a hill, without any auxiliary dressing, and their remissness in neglecting to compost by carting soil, mud, &c., into their barn-yards and hog-stics. Yet we should bear in mind that they cultivated comparatively a virgin soil; that they were the pioneers or sons of pioneers; that the soil they cultivated was less exhausted of its vegetable matter, and scarcely needed renovation. By continued cultivation our soil has in a measure been divested of its primitive vigor, and needs in some shape a remuneration for its former exertions. At this day, there is little disparity of opinion as to what substances are best calculated to renovate different soils, or the manner of composting. But as to the time and manner of its application, a diversity of opinion exists. Some contend that to top dress land with any kind of manure is a wasteful practice; that it should all be turned under by the plough or buried with the harrow. Others contend that manure should never be covered with the plough; that it buries it too deep and it sinks into the earth, affording little or no benefit to vegetation. We are free to acknowledge that no general rules can be laid down for the application of manure, with safety, without a knowledge of the nature of the soil; but so far as our experience extends, we think a suitable compost can be advantageously applied to grass lands at a proper season; and as a general rule, we think that season is as soon as may be after the crop is taken off.

In the application of manure to arable land for grain crops, where the soil is a sandy loam, and liable to suffer from drought, we have invariably found it the best policy to spread green, unfermented manure on top, and plough it under with the plough. This system we have practised for a series of years with satisfactory results. By this you will perceive that we till adhere to our old theory, that in such soils the gases arise from the decomposing manure (buried beneath the furrow) in proper season to carry out the crops, and that its salts never sink beyond the reach of vegetation.

On low lands, on soils of a tenacious character, where black mud or clay predominates, we think the application of manure on the furrow to be mixed with the soil with the harrow is preferable; manures buried deep beneath such soils would be less likely to receive sufficient influence from the sun and atmosphere to decompose and evolve the gases in season to benefit the crops, besides the liability of such lands to be inundated and overflowed by powerful rains, which would leach the soil and transport much of the manure beyond the reach of vegetation.

HORACE COLLAMORE.

PEMBROKE, *Mass., Nov.* 1848.

For the New England Farmer.

THE ORCHARD.

MR. EDITOR: Now that the farmer has secured his ample harvest, and a season of comparative leisure is before him, it is natural that he should turn his mind to future employments in his honest and laborious calling. He now wisely arranges, in his view of the coming year, which field shall be devoted to corn and which to wheat, which to this crop and which to that, &c., until the next harvest almost rises in perspective before him, as the long winter passes away.

Among things entitled to his notice, and worthy of his care, the orchard comes in with a superior claim. What healthful delicacies it affords his family, and at how cheap a rate! A few hours' labor and a little timely care each year, and he may have a complete cycle of choice apples, pears, plums, cherries, and oftentimes peaches, in their several seasons, to regale his taste and contribute to his comfort. There are no luxuries of foreign climes so cheap, so healthful, and so delicious as these; yet how shamefully is their culture, even in this age of progress, neglected while thousands of dollars are expended every year in the purchase of foreign fruits, which, in too many instances, operate to the detriment, instead of the benefit, of the consumer. Let this money be expended in fruit trees adapted to our lands and what a saving would result in a short time! Being amply supplied with *fresh* fruits, we should no longer crave the insipid and stale ones, which are too often picked in an immature state, in order to enable them to bear transportation.

But, says the aged man, "I am too *old* to plant young trees; I should never live to see them bear." He may not, and the young may not live to realize the fruit of their labors. But will this give them an excuse for neglecting any of the provident duties with regard to the future? "Work while the day lasts," is an injunction applicable to temporal as well as spiritual things, and applies to the aged as well as to the young; for who knows but both may enjoy the fruit of their labors? We see men, even in the latest years of a protracted life, anxious to secure a good bargain, in order to gain a *few dollars more*, to be bequeathed to their children. Is it any more unreasonable for them to be anxious to leave the old field in a high state of cultivation, beautifully dotted over with luxuriant fruit trees, ready every spring to perfume the air with their blossoms, in tribute to his fragrance who gave them locality, and every autumn resting their rich and mellow fruit upon the lap of earth, emblematical of his mature fall into the kind bosom of the mother of all men? Aged men, arise and plant, and your country will pay tribute to your patriotism and posterity; and as they look upon your labors of love and kindness, will rise up and call you blessed.

It is to the young, however, that fruit culture commends itself with the richest inducements. And what brighter remembrancer of youth's joyful days, can we have than in the tree that commenced life's journey at our side, and is yearly giving richer and kinder memorials of the gratitude for our care in its protection in its ample foliage and *delicious* fruit?

To the young, then, rise and plant. Yes, plant; sow your fruit seed in a mellow soil, and next spring, when the young germs appear, keep them free from weeds as you should your hearts from the vices that surround you. When of a proper size, graft them with your hands, and give them, through all the period of their early growth, the service they may require. What a pleasure it will be to you in old age, after having been regaled year after year with their bounties, to tell to all around you, "That tree in that orchard *I raised from the seed.* I grafted and transplanted it with my own hands, and by my timely pruning gave it the beautiful, open head it now possesses. It has repaid me a thousand times for my earnest watching and timely cares. It must soon pass to the benefit of others, but I am happy that I have so rich a legacy to leave them. With proper care, it will be an ornament for years to come, and its fruit a blessing to other generations. If they neglect it, and let it perish for want of nurture, the loss is theirs. Young men! now I am old, listen to my advice, and plant, for your own pleasure and profit, and the good of posterity. W. BACON.

ELLENWOOD, *Oct.* 1848.

MANURE.

There is not a farmer in all the land that is not aware of the great importance of manure; yet only a few practise upon this knowledge, and gather up the fragments, that nothing may be lost. Not more than one tenth of the farmers in our country are strict economists as to manure. A great many allow of a most extravagant waste, by throwing their manure out doors, exposed to drenching rains, a hot sun, and severe frosts, all tending to scatter it to the winds, or sink it into the earth. In these and various other ways of waste, one half is lost, while exhausted lands and meagre crops are prominent monuments of gross negligence or want of skill.

The good farmer not only saves all his manure, but he increases it by the addition of large quantities of mud, muck, peat, loam, sand, clay, sods, &c. All these, composted with animal manures, are excellent. The mud, clay, and muck improve the texture of light soils; and sand, gravel, and loam, are improvers of heavy soils. These and various other substances, such as sawdust, fine shavings, leaves, weeds, refuse hay, straw, and other litter, absorb the liquid manure, and save the solid from waste, by a mixture with the earths, which moderate fermentation, and absorb the gases, and become a good manure themselves.

Experiments in saving the liquid manure of animals in loam, and applying it to one piece of land and the solid parts to another piece of the same size, show that the liquid part is equal to the solid part. The economical farmer generally has a barn cellar for manure, with some earthy materials, as absorbents, and to mix with the solid parts. In this way, the quantity of manure may be increased two thirds, without any reduction in its value per cord.

Those farmers who have no barn cellars, and cannot make them immediately, can use various materials, such as we have named, on the floor, to

prevent waste; and make a shelter over the heaps. But with a good share of earth, united with it, there will be far less waste when exposed out doors.

Some farmers put under the floor a few feet of earth, to receive all that runs through; others place the earth, and use it as a bed for the cattle, and dispense with the floor, and as the earth becomes wet, it is thrown out, mixed with the more solid manure.

There are so many convenient modes of saving all the manure, that there is no excuse for allowing one half to go to waste. In the fall, the manure should be removed from the barn-yard, and a liberal layer of earth supplied to absorb the liquid manure, and by admixture save the solid from waste. Any earth is useful, but it is better to use that of a different texture from the soil to which it is to be applied. This mode not only saves from waste in the yard, but it forms a compost which prevents waste after the manure is applied.

WORK FOR THE SEASON.

Stern December, with his scowls and frowns, his pelting storms, freezing blasts, and fits of sunshine, is a busy month, in which the farmer finds no time to visit his friends, or sit by the cheerful fire, and enjoy the fruits of his summer's labor, excepting the long evenings afford a pleasant leisure-season for social improvement.

The manure being all taken care of, and provision made to save it in future, ploughing may be attended to in suitable weather. Late fall and early winter ploughing improves a hard soil, destroys witch grass, and forwards spring work. Large stones, to be hauled in winter, should be placed on small ones, to prevent freezing to the ground.

Every animal should be made comfortable by a warm, dry shelter. This is not only excellent economy as to the condition of the animal, and the production of milch cows, but in the saving of food; for in cold weather, particularly with animals exposed, a large quantity of food is consumed in supplying *carbon* or fuel for the lungs, by which the heat of the animal is sustained. Every farmer knows very well that animals eat much more in cold than in warm weather. The difference is plainly perceived as the weather changes.

Prepare fuel for one year. More can be done in one day early in winter, than in two days when the snow is deep. Economy in the use of fuel is an important subject. A large fire in an old-fashioned fireplace is pleasant and healthful, owing to excellent ventilation, but too expensive, as nine tenths of the heat are wasted.

Provide comfortable, convenient, and well-ventilated school-houses. Our school-rooms, in these respects, are generally far inferior to our churches and private dwellings. Why? Children are crammed together in close rooms, regardless of their health and progress in education.

Secure roots, cabbages, pumpkins, squashes, and fruit. Protect fruit trees from cattle; they prune too closely and indiscriminately; save your grain from rats and mice; make drains to protect tillage lands from washing. Prune grape vines, if not already done. Do not allow the sun to shine on bee-hives during winter, as it invites them out. Secure all farming implements from the weather. There is great economy in chopping straw, hay, cornstalks, &c., and as farmers are learning its utility, the practice is extending.

By all means, prepare to settle all accounts by New Year, and not only see how your account stands with others, but adjust your account with yourself also. See whether you are industrious, economical, and thrifty, or becoming rather indolent or extravagant. These evils are apt to creep on imperceptibly, if we do not keep a strict account with ourselves, and settle often. Continue to make progress in useful knowledge; never rest satisfied with present attainments, lest your example influence the rising generation. Let your motto ever be, "Onward!"

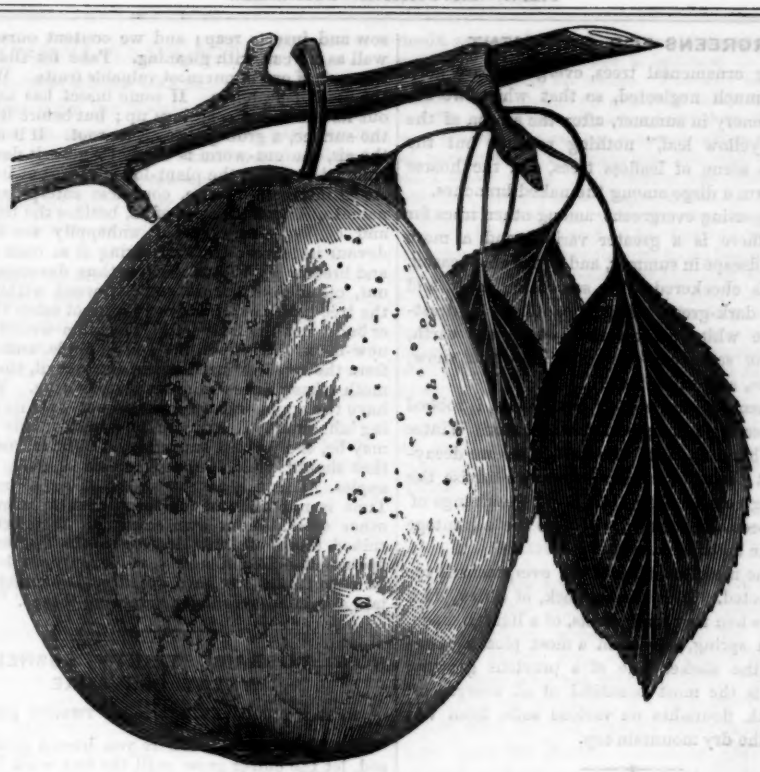
BOOK KNOWLEDGE OF FARMERS:

DERIDED BY WHOM?

With a man of any reflection and honest care for progress in all the arts and employments of useful industry, there are few things more trying to his patience than to hear men, sometimes even gentlemen, who have some pretensions to education, and who therefore ought to know better, denouncing book knowledge, as affording any guide in practical husbandry. Now, to all such, and especially to practical men who succeed well in their business, and who have always something useful to impart, as the result of their own personal experience, does it not suffice to say, "I am obliged to you for what you have told me; your integrity assures me that it is true, and your success convinces me that yours is the right rotation, and yours the proper process, since I see that while you gather heavy crops, your land is steadily improving; but now, my friend, let me ask you one question further. What you have imparted is calculated to benefit me personally, and unless communicated again by me to others, with me its benefits will rest. Now, suppose, instead of the slow and unsocial process of waiting to be interrogated, and making it known, to one by one, as accident may present opportunities, you allow me to have recourse to the *magical power of types*, which will spread the knowledge of your profitable experience, gained by much thought and labor, far and wide throughout the land, that thousands may enjoy the advantages which otherwise I only shall reap from your kind and useful communication. Will not that be more beneficial to society, and is it not a benevolent and a Christian duty not to hide our lights under a bushel?" Doubtless such a man, if not a misanthropic churl or fool, would say, Yes. Yet the moment, by means of types, such knowledge is *committed to paper*, it becomes (by fools only derided) *book knowledge. — Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

FRUIT CONVENTIONS.

We shall, in future numbers, give the doings of the great pomological conventions at Buffalo and New York, so far as relates to their decisions on the merits of fruit. The doings of these large bodies of intelligent men, from different and distant parts of an extensive country, are both interesting and important.



FLEMISH BEAUTY PEAR.

CHARACTERISTICS: size, large; form, roundish obovate; skin, rough, yellow, or greenish yellow ground, with dark russet spangled and marbled over the whole surface, and an occasional tinge or blush of brownish-red; stem, generally more than an inch long, stout, in a small, narrow cavity; calyx, small, open, in a broad, shallow basin; flesh, yellowish-white, not very fine texture, juicy, melting, of a rich saccharine, and slightly perfumed flavor. Fine specimens are excellent, but, like most foreign, and some native pears, it is rather variable in quality.

The Flemish Beauty is a very luxuriant grower, and a good bearer. It needs a deep, rich, warm soil. Ripens from September 15 to the last of October. Best ripened in the house. It should be gathered at an earlier stage than most other pears, even before it has hardly attained its full size. It has received but little attention in orchard culture. It ranks among the most valuable varieties.

FRUIT.

To almost every individual in the country this subject is important. Fruit of good quality and condition is a delightful luxury, which may be used freely with decided benefit. It is conducive to sustenance and health, and it may generally be produced so as to be used as a matter of economy, being an excellent substitute for more costly dishes.

We are yet in our infancy in regard to fruits, though some cultivators have done much. Most farmers have but little fruit excepting apples, and they are not of the best qualities in many orchards. Light must be diffused throughout the country on this subject, and a great change take place, before cultivators generally will have a good assortment of the various species of fruit, though this desirable purpose may be easily attained by any person who is zealous to accomplish it.

Every one who cultivates fruit should learn, from the experience of others, as well as from his own. It is well for those who have extensive lands, and a plenty of time and money, to make numerous experiments for their own pleasure and others' profit; but those who would combine utility and pleasure, should be cautious and avail themselves of information already gained by long and varied experience, else they may find, rather late in the day, much vexation, that their life is but a series of unsatisfactory experiments, and that old age finds them just ready for successful action.

Let the inexperienced begin with only a few fruits of undoubted excellence, and enlarge their list as they enlarge their store of information, by experience, observation, reading, reflection, and intercourse with other cultivators. In this way there will be pleasure and profit in the pursuit, instead of loss and disappointment by a contrary course.

EVERGREENS FOR ORNAMENT.

In setting ornamental trees, evergreens are generally too much neglected, so that where we see beautiful scenery in summer, after the season of the "sear and yellow leaf," nothing remains but the monotonous scene of leafless trees, and the hoarse winds perform a dirge among the naked branches.

By interspersing evergreens among other trees for ornament, there is a greater variety and a more pleasing landscape in summer, and in the cold season, the scene is checkered with something fresh and lively, with dark-green foliage, beautifully contrasted with the white mantle that wraps the earth, breaking the sameness often seen in white snow, white houses, and white fences.

Boston Common, for want of evergreens, is robbed of all its beauty and splendor, when stern Winter lays his icy hand upon it. As some trees are decaying on that beautiful summer spot, we advise the trial of evergreens in their place; and the change of crops, by species so various, will give the advantage of rotation in favor of success.

One of the most beautiful of all evergreens is too much neglected. It is the hemlock, of a rich, dark green; and when its young shoots, of a lighter shade, start late in spring, they form a most pleasing contrast with the darker hue of a previous growth; and then it is the most beautiful of all evergreens. The hemlock flourishes on various soils, from wet swamps to the dry mountain top.

ENTOMOLOGY.

The science of entomology, or a knowledge of insects, is assuming an importance with the cultivator, as these little, yet powerful enemies are becoming numerous and destructive, especially on land long cultivated; and the greatest skill is necessary in order to war successfully against them. The first study is to learn their habits, that we may attack them in the most tender or exposed stage, or most convenient time.

Dr. Harris, now Librarian of Harvard University, Cambridge, has rendered essential service to the community, by his valuable treatise on "Insects Injurious to Vegetation," which is the best work of the kind published in this country.

The following extract from an address of Judge Darling, before the New Haven, (Ct.,) Agricultural and Horticultural Society, on "Injurious Insects," portrays, in a clear manner, the extensive operations of these formidable enemies: —

"The Author of our being, when he created our race, was pleased to give us 'dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every *creeping thing* that creepeth upon the earth.' We have been in a great degree successful in asserting our rightful dominion over all except those '*creeping things*,' the *insect* world. They as yet are in many respects our masters. We must have leave from them to enjoy even our persons, sleeping or waking, in comfort. Fighting for it from 'seed-time to harvest,' we may get 'food to eat and raiment to put on,' but we must feed and wear in all haste, or some insect will expose us to starvation and rags. We sow and insects reap; and we content ourselves as well as we can with gleaning. Take for illustration the case of one of our most valuable fruits. We plant the seed of an apple. If some insect has not eaten out its substance, it springs up; but before it reaches the surface, a grub gnaws off its root. If it comes to the air, the cut-worm is ready to mow it down. If suffered to grow, the plant-louse sucks out its juices. As it increases in size, countless caterpillars, with names unknown to most of us, besides the bag-worm and canker-worm, names unhappily too familiar, devour its leaves; thus depriving it at once of food and breath. While the tree is thus devoured without, other insects bore out the wood within. But the tree blossoms, if an insect has not eaten the flower buds, and the fruit sets. The plum-weevil puts its new-moon mark upon the young apple, and it drops from the tree. What escapes the weevil, the apple-moth takes possession of for its offspring. We may have the apple, but we must take it with its disgusting inhabitant. Fortunate the farmer of this vicinity may be, the present season, if he obtains from a tree that should yield him ten barrels of fruit, ten fair apples. This is one sample of insect depredation. Time is not allowed me for particular reference to other cases. Your own sorrowful recollections of ruined crops, of fruits lost or made disgusting, of flowers despoiled of beauty, will supply ample reasons for regret, that we have failed so lamentably to obtain dominion over these 'creeping things.'"

HOW TO RAISE THIRTY BUSHELS OF WHEAT PER ACRE

WHERE YOU COULD NOT RAISE TWENTY BEFORE.

Eds. Cultivator: Where you have a good clover sod, let the clover grow until the first week in June; then take a good team and plough, and turn the clover all under; then roll the sod down flat, and let it lay eight or ten days; then take a light harrow or cultivator, and pulverize the ground fine, and about the 25th of June sow two and a half bushels of corn to the acre, and after harrowing it well, roll it down smooth. About the last week in August, take your roller and press the corn down as flat as possible, going round with the roller the same way you intend to plough the land; then plough the land as deep as possible, and turn all the corn under; follow with the roller, pressing all down flat. Thus you have two crops well mixed with the soil for manure.

Then take a light harrow or cultivator, and pulverize the ground fine, and sow your wheat about the middle of September; and if you do not have one-third more wheat than you do where you summer fallow, tell me I am mistaken in a cheap method of manuring land. The corn will grow so thick that it will keep every other plant down, and leave the ground clean, and if there are a few small leaves of the corn scratched up with the harrow, it will afford a good top dressing for the wheat.

Auburn, *Sept.* 22, 1848. IRA HOPKINS.

— *Albany Cultivator.*

Warmth of the Snow Blanket. — At the French Academy of Science, (March 14th, 1848,) M. Arago read a communication on the warmth imparted to the earth by a covering of snow, and respecting which there has hitherto been much skepticism. M. Arago stated that M. Boussingault had ascertained the truth of the theory beyond the possibility of doubt, during the past winter. He found that a thermometer plunged in snow to the depth of a decimetre, (about four inches,) sometimes marked five degrees of heat greater than at the surface. — *Medical Times.*

EXPERIMENTS ON POTATOES.

We have been familiar with this valuable root from our childhood, but the disease that has destroyed it to so great an extent, for a few years past, has induced us to collect many varieties, and cultivate them on the same land, managing them all in the same manner, to learn their comparative hardiness against the disease, as well as their quality, productiveness, &c.

In a trial of fifty varieties, we learn some important facts; but further experience is necessary to come to satisfactory conclusions on some points, for results vary from year to year. Last year the Peach Blows yielded more than the Long Reds; this year the latter were the most productive. In some cases we had the same potato from different sources, and the product, side by side, varied twenty-five per cent., showing a modification, by culture, soil, or other circumstances, that seem to produce a permanent effect on the seed, or planted tubers.

Some varieties rot much, others not any. Yet some of those that have not rotted with us, have been affected with others. We think no kind is perfectly exempt from disease, under predisposing causes, such as wet land, warm, wet weather, &c., though some are proof against it under favorable circumstances.

To have a wider range for selection and experiment, we have raised, the present season, new varieties from seed, which was collected from different sections, and was the product of potatoes from various parts of the world. So great was the variety, that in raising from about two hundred plants, nearly every one was distinct in appearance. This shows the effects of mixing many kinds together, and that potatoes will not generally produce the same from seed. In some cases we raised a quart from a single seed, planted the last of April, and some of the tubers were medial size, showing the great facility with which new kinds may be produced. More on this subject by and by.

Cooking Food for Stock. — There is no doubt of the advantages, in one point of view, of the cooking of food for some animals: this point is, that the same quantity of food affords, when cooked, a larger portion of nutrition. But is there not still a doubt as to the advantages of a general adoption of the cooking mode of feeding? What is true and advantageous on a large scale, will not always answer on a small one: a dinner for one man each day will scarcely pay for fuel and the wages of the cook; but when a hundred, instead of one, sit down to dinner, it is a very different affair, and the tavern-keeper who would go behindhand in the one case, could afford to ride in his chaise in the other. Will not a similar rule apply well in cooking food for domestic animals? Most tempting accounts have appeared, from time to time, in the agricultural journals, of profitable undertakings in feeding large numbers of swine upon cooked food; but I have never met with much in a small way, upon a limited scale, that seemed worthy of imitating.

Swine are mentioned, because it is rather doubtful if much or any advantage is derived in cooking for neat cattle, milch cows, or for horses. Perhaps the experiments tended to leave the subject in great doubt as regards all animals that chew the cud. The most decisive advantage is believed to have been found in cooking for swine. But why is it that our farmers have not more generally adopted it? It is not from the cause already adverted to, that expensive process may be true economy where a great deal of work is to be accomplished, but will not answer on a small scale. Any farmer can boil his small potatoes, and the meal also, to fatten his hogs at the beginning of winter, with the utensils in constant use all the year round in his family; but is it not questionable economy for him to go beyond this, and fit up an expensive boiling or steaming apparatus, to cook the food of his few swine? (And here it occurs to the mind, what should not be forgotten — never mix the meal with or use the water in which potatoes have been boiled, for the food of swine; for it is well known to be injurious, and to act as a medicine to scour, as it is termed.)

When, therefore, we see so often such laudable experiments and results in the cooking of food, urged for general adoption, does not the old adage occur, that we may be more nice than wise? — *Farmer's Visitor.*

KLOSS WINTER WHEAT.

A few years ago various seeds were received at the Cultivator office, from the Commissioner of Patents, which were distributed for experiment. Rufus M'Intire, Esq., of Parsonfield, Maine, is the only person who has reported on it. With him it has been very promising, and he made the following report after the last season's experience, which we copy from the Boston Cultivator. We should be pleased to hear something of its origin, and of its culture in other regions.

"My kloss white blue stem winter wheat passed through the winter perfectly safe, but suffered from rust and the worm. It was not sown last fall till I had taken off the corn crop late in September; thus it did not get up much before winter. I think, if sowed in August, it would have escaped the ravages of the worm, and possibly of the rust. A small patch sown early in September, where early potatoes grew, escaped the worm, and was but slightly injured by rust. I have an acre now up, and looking green and well, sown early, and half an acre sowed September 22; so I shall have another trial of it next year. The rust on wheat and potatoes struck this year unusually early. In common seasons, I think my winter wheat would have been out of the way of it. I have great confidence that this variety of wheat is sufficiently hardy to stand our severest winters. It is the same kind, successfully cultivated by Mr. Drew on the Kennebec. I obtained the first specimen of you from the patent office. Can you, or any of your readers, tell where it originated, or where it is cultivated?"

Extraordinary Effect of Oil of Aniseseed upon Rats. — It is a well-known fact that rats entertain an irresistible fondness for aniseseed. A gentleman of the name of Bayley, residing in the Hampstead road, had occasion, a short time since, to take down a small bottle of essential oil of aniseseed from a cupboard in his kitchen, which he accidentally let fall, and the bottle was broken and the contents escaped upon the floor. Before this accident, not a rat had for two years been seen upon the premises, but in a day or two afterwards they made their appearance; and at this time swarm to so great an extent that every effort to exterminate them has hitherto proved unavailing.

Domestic Department.

In the social circle woman ranks high, even in the ascendency; and in the management of domestic affairs, in relation to the preservation and preparation of the various productions of the earth, committed to her care, and in the education of children, she has a station of equal importance assigned her. In vain the husband *provides*, if his helpmeet does not *prepare*. Her place in the culinary department is no less important, than his in the field, shop, office, or counting-room. Competency, nor even wealth, should excuse her from skill in domestic economy, and in its general superintendence, and a constant active part in training those under her charge in the way they should go.

Wives of Working Men. — Speaking of the middle ranks of life, a good writer observed, "There we behold a woman in all her glory; not a doll to carry silks and jewels; not a puppet to be dandled by fops, an idol of profane adoration, reverenced to-day, discarded to-morrow; admired, but not respected; desired, but not esteemed; ruling by passion, not affection; imparting her weakness, not her constancy, to the sex which she should exalt; the source and mirror of vanity. We see her, as a wife, partaking the cares and guiding the labors of her husband, and by her domestic diligence spreading cheerfulness all around her; for his sake sharing the decent refinements of the world without being fond of them; placing all her joy, all her happiness, in the merited approbation of the man she loves. As a mother, we find her the affectionate, the ardent instructress of the children she has tended from their infancy; training them up to thought and virtue, to meditation and benevolence; addressing them as rational beings, and preparing them to become men and women in their turn.

The Farmer's Daughter. — There's a world of buxom beauty flourishing in the shades of the country. Farm-houses are dangerous places. As you are thinking only of sheep or of curds, you may be shot through by a pair of bright eyes, and melted away in a bewitching smile that you never dreamt of till the mischief was done. In towns and theatres, and thronged assemblies of the rich and titled fair, you are on your guard; you know what you are exposed to, and put on your breastplate, and pass through the most deadly onslaught of beauty safe and sound. But in those sylvan retreats, dreaming of nightingales, and hearing only the lowing of oxen, you are taken by surprise. Out steps a fair creature — crosses a glade — leaps a stile. You start — you stand lost in wonder and astonished admiration! You take out your tablets to write a sonnet on the return of the Nymphs and Dryads to earth, when up comes John Thompkins, and says, "It's only the farmer's daughter." What! have farmers such daughters now-a-days? Yes, I tell you they have such daughters. Those farm-houses are dangerous places. Let no man with a poetical imagination, which is only another name for a very tender heart, flatter himself with fancies of the calm delights of the country; with the serene idea of sitting with the farmer in his old-fashioned chimney corner, and hearing him talk of corn and mutton; of joining him in the pensive pleasure of a pipe and a jug of brown October; of listening to the gossip of the comfortable farmer's wife, of the parson and his family, of his sermons, and his pig; over a fragrant cup of young hyson, or rapt in the delicious luxuries of custards or whipped creams. In walks a fairy vision of wondrous witchery, and with a curtesy and a smile of winning and mysterious magic, takes her seat just opposite. It is the farmer's daughter, a living creature of eighteen; fair as the lily, fresh as May dew, rosy as the rose itself, graceful as the peacock perched on the pales there by the window, sweet as a posy of violets and clove gillivers, modest as early morn, and amiable as your own imagination of Desdemona or Gertrude of Wyoming. You are lost. It's all over with you. I wouldn't give an empty filbert, or a frog-bitten strawberry, for your peace of mind, if that glittering creature be not as pitiful as she is fair. And that comes of going into the country, out of the way of vanity and temptation, and fancying farm-houses nice old-fashioned places of old-established contentment. — "*The Hall and the Hamlet*," *by William Howitt.*

Pork Cheese. — Take the heads, tongues, and feet of young fresh pork, or any other pieces that are convenient. Having removed the skin, boil them till all the meat is quite tender, and can be easily stripped from the bones. Then chop it small, and season it with salt and black pepper to your taste, and if you choose, some beaten cloves. Add sage leaves and sweet majoram, mixed fine, or rubbed to powder. Mix the whole very well together with your hands. Put it into very deep pans, with straight sides, (the shape of a cheese;) press it down hard, and closely with a plate that will fit the pan; putting the under side of the plate next to the meat, and placing a heavy weight on it. In two or three days it will be fit for use, and you may turn it out of the pan. Send it to table cut in slices, and use mustard and vinegar with it. It is generally eaten at supper or breakfast.

To cure Hams in a Cheap Manner. — Lay your hams in tubs, if convenient, flesh side up; sprinkle salt on the fleshy part; let them drain twenty-four hours; then rub off the salt, and lay them in a large tub. Then prepare a brine by dissolving one pound of salt in one gallon of water, and to every six pounds of salt three and a half ounces of saltpetre. Make a sufficient quantity to cover the hams. Boil the brine, taking off the scum, and while boiling-hot pour it over the hams. Let them lie in the brine six weeks, then take them out, drain them, and smoke them.

Smoking hams is done as follows: Make a smoke with corn-cobs, if you have them — if not, with sound, hard wood, with damp sawdust thrown over the fire to prevent a blaze. Suspend your hams above this at a distance, to receive the most of the smoke. When they are a good brown color, which will be in about three weeks, they are smoked sufficiently.

They should then be dried. When dry, sew any kind of cotton cloth over them, and whitewash the outside; or if you have plenty of ashes in a dry place, cover the hams with paper, and bury them in ashes till wanted for use. This preserves them from bugs, and it is thought to improve their flavor. — *Emigrant's Hand-Book.*

Cooking Cranberries. — To each quart of berries, very shortly after the cooking of them is commenced, add a teaspoonful of saleratus. This will so much neutralize the acidiferous juice which they contain, as to make it necessary to use only *one fourth part* as much sugar as would have been requisite had they been cooked without using saleratus. — *Mich. Far.*

Westphalia Plan of Smoking Hams. — A room in a garret; fire in the cellar; smoke gathered in a tunnel and led to the smoke rooms by a small pipe; by the time it gets there all the heaviest part of the pyroligneous acid has condensed, and the smoke has become cool. Nothing touches the hams but a pure, light, cool smoke, which is allowed to pass off by a number of small apertures, about as fast as it is supplied.

To purify Honey. — Expose the honey to frost for three weeks, in a place where neither sun nor snow can reach it, and in a vessel of wood or other substance, which is not a good conductor of heat. The honey is not congealed, but becomes clear.

Cleaning Silk. — The following directions for cleaning silks are by one of the first Parisian dyers: Half a pound of soft soap, a teaspoonful of brandy, and a pint of gin; mix all together; with a sponge or flannel, spread the mixture on each side of the silk, without greasing it; wash it in two or three waters, and iron it on the wrong side; it will then look as good as new.

Training of Children. — The instruction of your children cannot commence too early. Every mother is capable of teaching her children obedience, humility, cleanliness, and propriety of behavior; and it is a delightful circumstance that the first instruction should thus be communicated by so tender a teacher. It is by combining affectionate gentleness in granting what is right, with judicious firmness in refusing what is improper, that the happiness of children is promoted, and that good and orderly habits are established. If children are early trained to be docile and obedient, the future task of guiding them aright will be comparatively easy. — *Nicholls.*

Boys' Department.

The boy is a man in miniature, fitting himself for the stage of action, on which he will soon perform his part in the great drama of life. How important, then, that he prepare to become a useful man, who shall be a blessing and ornament to society, and happy in the consciousness of deserving the approving plaudit of "Well done! good and faithful!"

Now, boys, if you will look back and count the years of your past short life, you will see that you will soon be men, and you must be prepared to act as men, or old Time will drag you along to the busy scenes of action, before you have learned the very A, B, C, of duty. In boyhood you will lay the foundation of your future character; then see that you build sure, that you may erect a structure that neither the winds nor storms of life can shake or undermine; that you may stand unmoved amidst the blast; and in the calm, enjoy the sunshine of life.

Your condition as men, your character as to intelligence and integrity, your elevation, or degradation, as it may be, all depend, in a great measure, on your own exertions. Others may instruct, guide, and advise, but the exertion is yours. None can act for you. Your friends can only act with you, to encourage and aid. But for you they cannot think one single thought, nor form or carry out one resolution.

As you will soon take the place of your fathers, your position is so important that we devote a department to your particular interest; yet we advise you to read with care all other parts of the paper.

Farmers' Boys. — There is a wholesome change going on in public sentiment, which promises to do much for the improvement of the country, and the condition of the people. We mean the change which is taking place among the young in relation to the great work of tilling the soil. A few years ago, and the young men left their fathers' farms as soon as they could get away from them — and the fathers themselves not unfrequently encouraged them in it. A hard hand and a sunburnt face were deemed poor recommendations in life; and more *genteel* modes of getting a living were sought by the young. But they are beginning to look at the matter in a different light. The dull times through which we have passed, have opened their eyes to the fact, that after all there is nothing like a farmer to stand through all times, as they are quite content to stay at home. The result will be, that our farms will be to a very great extent better cultivated, and produce more — that large farms, which are not half cultivated, will be divided, and well husbanded — and that we shall have a large and virtuous population scattered all over our fertile hills. — *Nashua Tel.*

Health.

We think that a few plain directions, receipts, and hints, on this subject, will be useful to the reader. Health is not only essential to happiness, but to the despatch of labor and business. Every person should learn to judge what is necessary for his health, for he cannot, like Sancho Panza, have a physician constantly at his elbow to tell him how much and what to eat and drink, when to sleep, and when to wake, and when he is too hot or too cold; and as a man must learn these things, he may as well exercise a little more common sense, and judge of the importance of exercise, diet, bathing, pure air, comfort, rest, mental employment, &c., &c.

We would by no means intrude upon the province of the medical profession, but advise, in all difficult cases, a resort to the most skilful. But to preserve health is the grand object, and afford instant relief in case of accident, and sudden and violent attacks, when medical aid is not at hand, which may save life, or prevent a course of sickness. As "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," we advise particular attention to the former, as the most economical and pleasant. We shall be cautious about meddling with such dangerous instruments as mercury, arsenic, &c., which are proper only in hands highly skilled in their use; but we shall recommend such remedial means as are safe, and they are often among the most efficacious.

For Croup or Quinsy. — For a sudden attack of quinsy or croup, bathe the neck with bear's grease, and pour it down the throat. A linen rag soaked in

sweet oil, butter, or lard, and sprinkled with yellow Scotch snuff, is said to have performed wonderful cures in cases of croup; it should be placed where the distress is greatest. Goose-grease, or any kind of oily grease, is as good as bear's oil.

Equal parts of camphor, spirits of wine, and harts-horn, well mixed, and rubbed upon the throat, is said to be good for the croup.

Severe cases of croup have been cured by the liberal application of cold water to the neck and breast, then rubbing with a coarse cloth, till a glow is produced.

METHOD OF PREVENTING COLD FEET AT BEDTIME. — Draw off your stockings just before undressing, and rub your ankles and feet with your hand, as hard as you can bear the pressure, for five or ten minutes, and you will never have to complain of cold feet in bed. It is hardly conceivable what a pleasurable glow this diffuses. Frequent washing of the feet, and rubbing them thoroughly dry with cloth or flannel, is very useful.

THE SLIPPERY ELM. — One of the most valuable, as it is a well-known article in our country, is the Slippery Elm, (*Ulmus Fulva.*) All our apothecaries keep it, both the flower and the bark. It is generally called slippery elm, red elm, or rough-leaved elm. It is indigenous to our country, and what is remarkable, yet but little known, it contains a great amount of human nourishment; it is medicinal also. It is an excellent substitute for water, and you can carry in your waistcoat pocket sufficient to subsist upon for *ten days!* The shipwrecked sailor, the soldier in Mexico, and the traveller on the prairies, should never be without it. It always mitigates hunger, and is nourishment and drink. Let no ship go to sea without it, no traveller fail to have it with him, no army march without it.

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

The mechanic, like the farmer, is a producer, and these are the two great classes which add wealth, comfort, and power to a nation. They are the main-spring that puts in motion and sustains the whole mechanism of society. Numerous other professions are also absolutely necessary for the well-being of the community, and form important component parts of the great machine which constitutes the body politic. All acting in harmony and unity, intimately blended, and depending on each other, complete the great social fabric.

The labor and ingenuity of the mechanic have made vast improvements in agriculture, by furnishing superior implements and machines, that not only lighten and expedite the labor of the cultivator, but give more thorough culture and better operations in almost every process.

The raw material of the farmer, in many respects, must receive the plastic hand of the mechanic, or artist, to give it currency and value. And his labors are not only in the line of utility, but they contribute largely to instruction, to improved taste, to elegance and refinement. Fine specimens of art are mute, yet eloquent teachers, often more impressive than the precepts and didactic instruction of the living. The beautiful and accurate engraving on our ninth page, speaks more than tongue or pen can express, in regard to form, and with the touch of the artist's pencil, its colors would be more distinctly impressed on the mind than by the power of language.

Mechanics, as well as farmers, can learn by reading of the inventions, discoveries, and experience of others, and by observation beyond their own routine of action. Besides, most mechanics have a spot of earth which they delight to cultivate, promoting their health by exercise in the open air; therefore they will be pleased and instructed by other parts of this paper. Their families will share also in the pleasure and profit.

NEW INVENTIONS. — A new flax-breaking, scutching and hackling machine has been invented by a gentleman in St. Louis. The notice which we have seen of this machine, states, that the breaking is accomplished by means of solid, polished, cast iron rolls, ribbed in a peculiar serpentine form. Fine, spiral, brass hackles are attached to cylinders, by means of which the fibre is perfectly softened and thoroughly hackled, at the same time that the breaking and scutching is going on. By the use of this machine, two children can do the work of twelve or fifteen persons using common hand cleaners.

The soil and the climate of these North-Western States are peculiarly favorable to the growth of flax. By the process of preparing it for market, with the facilities offered by such a machine, and the application of steam to the proper rotting of the stalk, we may anticipate the time as not far distant when this article, flax, will be one of our most profitable agricultural productions. — *Iowa Farmer.*

THE MANNER OF SOLDERING FERRULES FOR TOOL-HANDLES, &c. — Take your ferrule, lap round the joining a small piece of brass-wire, then just wet the ferrule, scatter on the joining ground borax, put it on the end of a wire, hold it in the fire till the brass fuses. It will fill up the joining, and form a perfect solder. It may afterwards be turned in the lathe.

WATER-PROOF GLUE. — Soak common glue in cold water till it becomes completely soft without changing its form; then dissolve it in common warm linseed oil, and apply it as usual; it will dry quickly.

CELEBRATED FRENCH POLISH. — To one pint of spirits of wine add one and a half ounces of shellac, one quarter of an ounce of gum copal, and one quarter of an ounce of gum Arabic; all the gums to be bruised. Keep the vessel into which these are put well corked, and let it remain in a warm place for two or three days; then pour off the clear part into another bottle. Apply the polish to the end of a rubber, made by rolling up a piece of firm muslin very firmly, fastened to a stick or skewer, and covered with a firm cotton cloth, perfectly free from lint or dust, and just moistened with a very small quantity of cold drawn linseed oil; use the rubber briskly, with a moderate pressure, in a circular direction, over a space of about a square foot at a time, and replenish both as the wood dries. Go over the whole surface in this manner, and give three or four coats, according to the grain of the wood. The operation must be performed in a place of moderate warmth. Gradually clear off the oil from the surface with the polish, and sometimes turn the rag, otherwise the brightness will not be perfect.

This polish imparts a superior brilliancy and clear-

ness, is not easily scratched, and is not affected by any moderate degree of heat. It is not injured by soap, and therefore can readily be cleaned by washing with soap and water. — *Mechanic's Note-Book.*

A French scientific journal states that the ordinary rate, per second, of a man walking, is 4 feet; of a good horse in harness, 14; of a reindeer in a sledge on the ice, 16; of an English race-horse, 43; of a hare, 88; of a good sailing ship, 14; of the wind, 82; of sound, 1038; of a twenty-four pounder cannon ball, 1300; and of the air, which so divided returns into space, 13,000 feet.

A man of science in his closet can do greater things than a general at the head of an army, or a despot with the physical power of a whole nation at his command.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

As we have been an ex-editor for a short time, the favors of our kind friends have so accumulated, that we cannot in one number take room to do justice to them; and yet some fruits, intended for us, did not reach their place of destination.

Pears, of various kinds, and superior specimens, of Mr. Henry Vandyne, Cambridgeport.

Merriam Peach. This is a new variety, and very promising, from Benjamin Merriam, Roxbury. It is extremely large, — one weighed half a pound, — roundish, slightly oval; suture on one side; pale yellow, bright red blush; flesh, yellowish, red at the core, juicy, of a rich, sweet, luscious flavor. Early in October. The tree very luxuriant. Some leaves nine and a half inches long.

Gravenstein Apple, of Messrs. S. and G. Hyde, Newton. This is one of the finest apples for the dessert and cooking, but, like the Porter, another valuable kind, it comes in during an abundance of peaches, plums, and fine pears. September and into October.

Hubbardston Nonsuch, from the same. One of the best and most profitable apples. It is very salable.

Hurlbut Apple, from Mr. S. Hurlbut, (of the firm of S. and L. Hurlbut, Winchester Centre, Ct., distinguished as raisers of fine Devon cattle,) a barrel of this fine fruit. It is rather large; flattish-conical; yellowish-green, mostly covered with bright red, striped with crimson, russet around the stem; flesh tender, crisp, juicy, of a mild, rich, highly aromatic flavor. One of the very best, and very beautiful. Last of October and into January. We find it to be an excellent grower in the nursery.

Thompson Apple, of Mr. Simon Gates, raised by his father, Mr. Levi Gates, Mercer, Me. This is a good fruit, but too far gone for an accurate decision. Very large and showy, being fair and of a bright red color.

Healey Apple, of Mr. Samuel Healey, East Weymouth. Large, fair, beautiful, of an excellent quality. It partakes of both the fruit of the scion and the stock. This is the case with many fruits.

Native Grapes, from Colonel Lebbeus Chase, Cornish, N. H. Early Isabella and Nizola grapes, more spirited and higher flavored than Isabella, but not so sweet. As they are early, they are well worthy of cultivation, particularly in the north. We have, in our nursery, from Colonel C., the strawberry grape, tart and pleasant, and Coon grape, sweet and good. Both are early, great growers, and they endured the last winter, which was a very trying one, perfectly well. Our worthy friend has done much in this line, for the good of the community. We are making experiments on his various kinds, and hope to rear lasting monuments to his memory.

Bull-Nose Pepper. This uncouth name is given to the most splendid variety of peppers that we ever saw. We have some fine specimens from Mr. John Hill, No. 101 Faneuil Hall Market. Over four inches in length, and ten inches in circumference; the color is a brilliant red. It is used for the same purposes as the squash, and common red peppers.

Quinces. From Mr. Robert Manning, of the Pomological Garden, Salem, three distinct kinds of quinces; the pear-shaped, largest at the top or blossom end; the apple-shaped, largest at the base or stem end; and the Portugal, largest in the centre.

Portsmouth Sweeting, of Dr. Rufus Kittredge, Portsmouth, N. H. This apple is large, very handsome, excellent for baking, but as they have ripened prematurely, being a winter apple, we cannot judge of their dessert properties.

Adams Pear, of Mr. W. W. Baxter, Quincy. Rather small, but of a good quality, and worthy of cultivation, as it is a hardy native, and a great bearer. We advise its trial in the north, where most foreign kinds fail.

M'Laughlin Pear, of Mr. Ebenezer Brown, Lynn. It has not yet ripened to perfection. We noticed this fruit while growing in Mr. B.'s garden, and its appearance was very promising. It is a hardy native of Maine.

Isabella Grapes, of excellent quality, of Mr. S. A. Godbold, Chelsea, who, owing to a warm location and skilful management, gets fine Isabellas almost every year, while a great many often fail.

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Scientific Agriculture, or the Elements of Chemistry, Geology, Botany, and Meteorology, applied to Practical Agriculture; by M. M. Rodgers, M. D., Author of Agricultural Chemistry, &c., &c. 12mo. 280 pages. Published by Erastus Darrow, Rochester, N. Y. Sold also by J. P. Jewett and Co., 23 Cornhill, Boston.

The subjects of this work are of the highest importance in agriculture; and from a cursory perusal we think the arrangement is excellent, and that the author has ably performed the difficult task of rendering science easy to the practical farmer. At another time we will give specimens of the work.

The Plough, Loom, and Anvil. A monthly octavo, at three dollars a year, by J. S. Skinner and

Son, Philadelphia. Mr. S. is well known as an able and veteran editor. The history and condition of agriculture, its claims to encouragement by government, and the rights and privileges of farmers, are important subjects in this work, and we are pleased that they are in hands so skilful.

The Landlord and Tenant. — Rights of Seamen. — Shippers and Carriers' Assistant. — These highly valuable works, which contain, in a condensed form, at a trifling cost, and in a style available to any common capacity, more than can be found on the same subjects in huge volumes, at an enormous expense, and difficult to collect, collate, and digest. One of these little works will often save a fee of five dollars for advice, and, by directing to a judicious course of management, it will often save hundreds of dollars in property, or a still larger sum in vexatious litigation. By I. R. Butts, No. 2 School Street.

The Magazine of Horticulture, for November, is at hand. This work, by C. M. Hovey, is conducted with distinguished ability. The editor is an original genius, and he furnishes a large share of valuable matter, in which many new and excellent fruits are described with great accuracy; he is also equally skilled in floriculture.

The Horticulturist, for November, is before us. The editor, A. J. Downing, is eminent for his labors in horticulture, landscape gardening, and rural architecture; and this work is replete with interest and valuable instruction.

Address before the Middlesex Agricultural Society, by Hon. J. C. Gray. An able, interesting, and sensible discourse, by one who takes a deep interest in agriculture, and zealously labors to promote it.

Catalogue of Wasemequia Nursery, New Bedford, Henry H. Crapo, proprietor, containing a descriptive list of an extensive assortment of fruit trees, also ornamental trees, shrubs, &c.

Webster's Dictionary. We call particular attention to the advertisement of this invaluable standard. In previous works there has been a vagueness in definitions, so that it was impossible to learn the true meaning of words by a dictionary. This deficiency is admirably supplied by Webster, who defines definitely, and with great accuracy and perspicuity. He has accomplished the grand desideratum of furnishing a work that is readily acknowledged a *Standard of the English Language*, and it well deserves that high distinction. It will remain a monument of laborious genius and profound erudition, and a distinguished landmark for future ages.

THE MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

During the warm season, hold public exhibitions every Saturday, in their splendid hall, where the extensive tables and stands are usually well filled with fruits and flowers, and the spacious room crowded with members and visitors. In the cold season, meetings are held in the library room, where fruits are shown, and tested by the committee.

This association possesses ample means, and it annually distributes large sums in liberal premiums and gratuities, and in making valuable additions to the library. In zeal and intelligence, and in efficiency in the cause of horticultural improvement, it is not excelled by any institution in this great country, nor in the still wider world. All Europe, many other distant regions, and our own extensive continent, are ransacked for superior fruits and vegetables, which are here fairly tested in our natural climate, or in the torrid zone of a hot house.

Our Engravings are drawn and completed by Mr. S. E. Brown, 120 Washington Street, whom we recommend as a skilful artist.

THE SONG OF TOIL.

BY AUGUSTINE J. H. DUGANNE.

Let him who will rehearse the song
  Of gentle love and bright romance;
Let him who will, with tripping tongue,
  Lead gleaming thoughts to fancy's dance;
But let *me* strike mine iron harp,
  As northern harps were struck of old —
And let its music, stern and sharp,
  Arouse the free and bold!

My hand that iron harp shall sweep,
  Till from each stroke new strains recoil,
And forth the sounding echoes leap,
  To join the arousing song of toil;
Till men of thought their thoughts outspeak,
  And thoughts awake in kindred mind,
And stirring words shall arm the weak,
  And fetters cease to bind!

And coursing, soon, o'er soul and sense,
  That glorious harp, whose iron strings
Are Labor's mighty instruments,
  Shall shake the thrones of mortal kings;
And ring of axe and anvil note,
  And rush of plough through yielding soil,
And laboring engine's vocal throat,
  Shall swell the Song of Toil!

Olden Times in Massachusetts. — In 1627, there were but thirty-seven ploughs in all Massachusetts, and the use of these agricultural implements was not familiar to all the planters. From the annals of Salem it appears, in that year, it was agreed by the town to grant Richard Hutchinson twenty acres of land, in addition to his share, on condition "he set up ploughing." — *Nat. Ægis.*

THE OLIO.

Nothing annoys an enemy so much as kindness. It is an arrow that generally hits the mark.

A tailor, who, in skating, fell through the ice, declared that he would never again leave his *hot goose* for a *cold duck*.

Our Native Soil — The farmer's capital, which can never be *turned* without *profit*.

Princes and lords may flourish or may fade;
A breath can make them, as a breath has made;
But a bold yeomanry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed, can never be supplied.

Gold Digging. — The best tools in the business, a *plough* and a *hoe* — the best place to seek for it, *above ground*.